Living Needs Benefit<sup>SM</sup> Rider

# RIDER

Living Needs Benefit<sup>™</sup> Rider (LNB)

The *Living Needs Benefit* is referred to as the "Settlement Options to Provide Acceleration of Death Benefits" in the contract.

# **OVERVIEW**

The *Living Needs Benefit* is a feature available at no additional premium\* on most of our single-life permanent and level-term life insurance policies. It was designed to add flexibility to the payment of specified claims by advancing part of the death benefit if the insured: (a) has been confined to an eligible nursing home for at least six months and is expected to be permanently confined; (b) is terminally ill and has a life expectancy of six months or less; or (c) requires an organ transplant and would have only six months or less to live without the transplant procedure. (See the **State Variations** section later in this highlighter for additional information.)

The *Living Needs Benefit* is an accelerated payment of life insurance proceeds. It is not intended or designed to provide health or long-term care insurance. Funds can be used for any purpose. You must provide the appropriate disclosure whenever you add the *Living Needs Benefit* to new or in-force business. (See the **Disclosure** section.)

The tax consequences of the Living Needs Benefit are detailed later in this highlighter.

\*There is no charge for this rider but, when a claim is paid under this rider, the death benefit is reduced for early payment, and a \$150 processing fee is deducted. If more than one policy is used for the claim, each policy will have a processing fee of up to \$150. (For the exception in Florida, see the **State Variations**.)

# **Product Description**

# **TERMINAL ILLNESS OPTION**

The *Living Needs Benefit* provides for an advance of funds from the client's life insurance policy if the insured becomes terminally ill with a life expectancy of six months or less.

# **NURSING HOME OPTION**

The Nursing Home Option, if included, provides for an advance of funds from the policy if the insured has been confined to an eligible nursing home for six months and is expected to remain there for the remainder of his or her life.

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# **BENEFIT AMOUNT**

The entire contract may be accelerated (except in Connecticut). After the actuarial reduction is applied, the LNB amounts paid to policy owners who are accelerating the entire contract are, in most cases, between 70% and 80% of the death benefit for the full Nursing Home Option and between 90% and 95% for the full Terminal Illness Option. The policy owner generally has a choice of receiving the benefit in monthly installments or in a lump sum. Partial claims may be available.

The death benefit under the following riders is included in the calculation of the LNB amount at claim time: Level Term riders in the convertible period, PUA Rider, PruStyle Rider, Designer Rider, AIPT Rider, Estate/Legacy Select Special Rider, and Custom Rider. These riders, as well as any other riders on the insured, will terminate if the full amount of the death benefit is accelerated under the *Living Needs Benefit*. Riders on lives other than the insured are not included in the calculation and will remain in force with no further premium due. If a partial claim is made, the premiums and insurance amounts of the base policy and the riders (other than Accidental Death Benefit) will be appropriately reduced. Riders on lives other than the insured are not reduced.

# Eligibility

Except in Washington state and as specified for certain term policies mentioned below, the *Living Needs Benefit* can be added to existing contracts or future policies covering a single life. The policy owner must have at least a "threshold" amount of eligible insurance on the insured. The applicable threshold can be satisfied by aggregating eligible contracts.

Aggregate death benefits must meet the thresholds described below.

#### **Basic Threshold**

50,000 for issue ages 0 – 60 for policy owners with no eligible policies issued before 1/26/90 (5/15/92 for NY).

#### **Concession Threshold**

\$25,000 for policy owners with an eligible policy issued before 1/26/90 (5/15/92 for NY). This threshold also applies if the insured's issue age is 61 and over.

The Economatic Benefit, which is part of the Custom Classic Life policy, can be considered when determining whether the threshold has been met.

The Adjustable Insurance Benefit amount provided by the PruStyle Rider, Estate Select Special Rider, Legacy Select Special Rider, and Custom Rider will be counted toward the threshold.

Once the appropriate threshold is met, all eligible in-force and future policies can include the LNB Rider no matter what the amount of insurance.

The *Living Needs Benefit* can be included at issue or added after issue on eligible term policies only if the term policy is convertible and, for after-issue requests, is currently in the conversion period.

## MAXIMUM POLICY FACE AMOUNT

The *Living Needs Benefit* is available on policies of any face amount if the above threshold amounts are met.

LIVING NEEDS BENEFIT<sup>SM</sup> RIDER

## UNDERWRITING REQUIREMENTS

There are no special underwriting requirements to add the *Living Needs Benefit* to new issues or inforce policies.

# **ISSUE AGES**

No special requirements except as noted in the **Eligibility** section above, and for Minnesota as described in **State Variations**.

#### **RATING CLASSES**

All.

# Applying for the Living Needs Benefit

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

The applicant must read the disclosures contained in the disclosure brochure (ORD 87246 or applicable state variation) which must be provided to him or her when discussing the *Living Needs Benefit.* 

#### When using Life Express or PXB

Check the "Acceleration of Death Benefits (*Living Needs Benefit*)" box in the Product Information section of the worksheet.

If the client is adding the *Living Needs Benefit* to in-force contracts as well as new business, you must indicate in the remarks section that the owner wants to add the *Living Needs Benefit* to all eligible inforce policies. You must also provide the policy numbers.

#### When using EA

Select "Y" next to "Accelerated Death Benefit (*Living Needs Benefit*)" for Requested Options Benefits on the Product Screen.

If the client is adding the *Living Needs Benefit* to in-force contracts as well as new business, you must inform the underwriter by including a note in the Memo section. The note should read "Add the *Living Needs Benefit* to all eligible in-force policies" and then list the in-force policy numbers.

#### When using the paper application process

Check the "Acceleration of Death Benefits (*Living Needs Benefit*)" box in the Coverage section of the Plan of Insurance (Section B).

If the client is adding the *Living Needs Benefit* to in-force contracts as well as new business, you must write the words "Add the *Living Needs Benefit* to all eligible in-force policies" in the Special Requests Box (Section H).

In the "Remarks" space of the Agent's Report, write "Add the *Living Needs Benefit* to the following policies." List the in-force policy numbers and face amounts.

# **IN-FORCE**

Any after-issue requests to add the *Living Needs Benefit* to an existing policy(ies) require submission of the policy change form (COMB 84800S). The appropriate box under "Add" should be checked and all eligible in-force contracts should be listed in the open space. The client is required to sign the form.

**In New York,** special wording is also required in the open space. All New York offices have been provided with a stamp with the regional wording. The wording should read: "I am aware that *(1)* receipt of accelerated death benefits may affect eligibility for public assistance programs and may be taxable; and *(2)* a reduction will be applied to determine any accelerated death benefit payable and a \$150 administration charge will be deducted at the time of payment."

# **Claim Considerations**

### **CLAIM REQUIREMENTS**

A claim can be made by the policy owner if the insured has been confined to an eligible nursing home for at least six months and is expected to be permanently confined; or is terminally ill and has a life expectancy of six months or less; or requires an organ transplant and would have only six months or less to live without the transplant procedure. Satisfactory evidence from the insured's physician must be provided. (In Connecticut, evidence can also be provided by an advanced practice registered nurse.)

#### **PROCESSING FEE**

When a claim is paid, a processing fee of up to \$150 for the first policy and for each additional policy used for the same claim will be deducted (as well as a reduction for early payment). (For the exception in Florida, see the **State Variations**.)

# **OPTION TO MAKE A CLAIM**

If the insured becomes eligible for the benefit to be paid, the policy owner can decide to make a claim for the *Living Needs Benefit* or leave the policy intact.

# **REMAINING DEATH BENEFIT**

In most cases, if the maximum benefit amount is claimed, the policy will terminate. If a partial benefit payment is claimed, the life insurance policy can continue with a reduced death benefit and lower premiums. (Note: A partial benefit is NOT available in Kentucky on *Living Needs Benefit* riders issued on or after 1/1/2008.) See the rider for any restrictions that apply to partial *Living Needs Benefit* claims.

When only a portion of the option is elected, the insured's death benefit of the life insurance policy will be reduced proportionately, and will continue to provide a reduced death benefit for the beneficiary. The premiums, values (including any Contract Fund values), and amount of insurance will be appropriately reduced. Any dividends payable in the future will also be appropriately reduced.

## **PAYMENT PERIOD**

Once payments begin, they will continue for the period designated and agreed to by the policy owner at claim time.

# DISCLOSURE

The "Get the Most out of Your Life Insurance" brochure (ORD 87246 or applicable state variation) must be presented to clients and applicants whenever the *Living Needs Benefit* is added to a new or in-force policy. (See the **State Variations** section at the end of this highlighter regarding appropriate versions of the brochure.)

# CANCELLATION

The benefit may be permanently removed from the policy at any time prior to claim at the policy owner's request. Once removed it cannot be reattached to the policy.

#### MEDICARE, SSI, AND MEDICAID

Medicare is not affected by the *Living Needs Benefit* whether or not a claim is paid. Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Medicaid can be affected only if the policy owner receives the benefit payment. Social Security will count *Living Needs Benefit* payments as part of the policy owner's income when they determine whether they can pay SSI, and, if so, how much they can pay. Therefore, the *Living Needs Benefit* payment may lower the SSI amount or make someone ineligible for Medicaid.

### TAX CONSEQUENCES

Accelerated death benefits that are paid from a life insurance contract, such as our *Living Needs Benefit*, are generally excludable from federal income tax as long as the insured satisfies the tax law definition of "terminally ill" or "chronically ill."

If the insured qualifies for the Terminal Illness Option, proceeds advanced to the policy owner under the *Living Needs Benefit* are generally free from federal income tax whether they are advanced in a lump sum or are made in periodic payments.

*Living Needs Benefits* paid under the Florida Vital Organ Transplant Option are excludable from federal income tax if a physician certifies that the insured is reasonably expected to die within 24 months without the transplant procedure.

If the insured qualifies for the Nursing Home Option and a licensed health care practitioner certifies that the insured meets the tax law definition of "chronically ill," *Living Needs Benefit*s paid to the policy owner are generally excludable from federal taxable income. Annual certification must be provided to us in order to qualify for this exclusion. However, there are some limits to the excludable amount depending on actual expenses incurred and benefits received from sources other than the *Living Needs Benefit*. In addition, there are special considerations when the payments are made to a taxpayer other than the insured in the case of business-related policies. **We recommend that the policy owner consult with a tax advisor or attorney about how a claim for the** *Living Needs Benefit* **may impact his or her personal situation.** 

# **Markets/Prospects**

# PROSPECTS

The *Living Needs Benefit* should be discussed with all individuals considering a purchase of permanent or level-term life insurance. (For an exception, see the Minnesota, Massachusetts, and Washington state variations below). The *Living Needs Benefit* should appeal to anyone, no matter what age, who is aware of the financially draining situation created by a terminal illness or permanent nursing home stay.

## **STATE VARIATIONS**

**Connecticut:** The Connecticut rider restricts the amount that can be accelerated to no more than 75% of the death benefit. When the reduction is applied, the maximum benefit the client can receive is 65% to 70% for the Terminal IIIness Option. Effective 5/2/11, the Nursing Home Option is not available for new policies or when the *Living Needs Benefit* is added after issue.

A special version of the disclosure brochure is required (ORD 87246CT, 0196500).

**Florida:** A unique benefit is included in *Living Needs Benefit* riders issued or added prior to 5/2/11. The Vital Organ Transplant benefit option provides for an accelerated payment of the policy's death benefit proceeds in the event that the insured has recently undergone a heart, liver, heart-lung, or bone marrow transplant. The following requirements must be met:

- The transplant must be performed in a facility licensed or approved as an organ transplant center by the state in which it is located.
- > The claim must be received within 90 days after the date the transplant was performed.

The policy owner can select the amount he or she wishes to receive, up to the lesser of the cost of the transplant, 75% of the convertible proceeds as defined in the rider, or \$250,000.

Effective with new policies issued on or after 5/2/11 or when LNB is added to the policy after 5/2/11, the Nursing Home Option is not available and the processing fee that is assessed when a claim is paid is limited to no more than \$100 per policy. A special version of the disclosure brochure is required (ORD 87246FL/MA, 0196495).

Kansas: A special version of the brochure is required (ORD 87246KS, 0176917).

Kentucky: A special version of the brochure is required (ORD 87246KY, 0166620).

**Massachusetts:** Effective 6/20/11, LNB is available without the Nursing Home Option on new policies or when LNB is added after issue. A special version of the disclosure brochure is required (ORD 87246FL/MA, 0196495), as well as a disclosure statement required by the state of Massachusetts (REQ 71346 MA—Disclosure Statement for Prudential/Pruco Life's *Living Needs Benefit*, an Accelerated Death Benefit Product).

**Michigan:** A special version of the brochure is required (ORD 87246MI, 0178563). The Nursing Home Option is called Option A and the Terminal Illness Option is called Option B.

**Minnesota:** The *Living Needs Benefit* cannot be offered to or discussed with persons over age 65 until one year after issue. Any ads or sales promotions must be approved by the state insurance department.

**New York:** Organ transplant is a separate special terminal illness option. To qualify for the organ transplant option, the insured must have a life expectancy of six months or less unless he or she receives a vital organ transplant. Since it is a terminal illness-type option, the claim must be received prior to the transplant. The Nursing Home Option is not available. The Terminal Illness Option can be paid only in a lump sum, and monthly installments are not permitted. The minimum benefit amount accelerated under the option must be at least enough to provide the lesser of 25% of the policy face amount or \$50,000. A special version of the brochure is required (ORD 87246NY/DC, 0152642).

If a *Living Needs Benefit* illustration is provided, it must be the New York-approved generic illustration. Copies of this two-page illustration are available from the Field Office Forms Data Base. The form number is 97948NY.

Ohio: A special version of the brochure is required (ORD 872460H, 0173390).

**Oregon:** Term policies must have Waiver of Premium to add the *Living Needs Benefit*.

**Washington, D.C.:** The Nursing Home Option is not available. A special version of the brochure is required (ORD 87246NY/DC, 0152642).

**Washington:** Effective 6/22/09, the *Living Needs Benefit* can no longer be added to any policy either at or after issue.

This rider is offered on life insurance policies issued by The Prudential Insurance Company of America, Pruco Life Insurance Company (except in NY), and Pruco Life Insurance Company (in NY and/or NJ). Variable policies offered through Pruco Securities, LLC. All are Prudential Financial companies located in Newark, NJ.

All guarantees and benefits of the insurance policy are backed by the claims-paying ability of the issuing insurance company. Policy guarantees and benefits are not backed by the broker/dealer and/or insurance agency selling the policy, nor by any of their affiliates, and none of them makes any representations or guarantees regarding the claims-paying ability of the issuing insurance company.

Securities and Insurance Products: Not Insured by FDIC or Any Federal Government Agency. May Lose Value. Not a Deposit of or Guaranteed by Any Bank or Bank Affiliate.

New policies must meet certain face amount requirements before the *Living Needs Benefit* will be added to the contract. The *Living Needs Benefit* is an accelerated death benefit and is not a health, nursing home, or long-term care insurance benefit, and is not designed to eliminate the need for insurance of these types. There is no charge for this rider but, when a claim is paid under this rider, the death benefit is reduced for early payment, and a \$150 processing fee (\$100 in Florida) is deducted. If more than one policy is used for the claim, each policy will have a processing fee of up to \$150 (\$100 in Florida) deducted. Portions of the *Living Needs Benefit* payment may be taxable, and receiving an accelerated death benefit may affect your client's eligibility for public assistance programs. The federal income tax treatment of payments made under this rider depends upon whether the insured is the recipient of the benefit and is considered "terminally ill" or "chronically ill." We suggest that your clients seek assistance from a personal tax advisor regarding the implications of receiving *Living Needs Benefit* payments. This rider is not available in Minnesota to new purchasers over age 65 until the policy has been in force for one year, and the nursing home option is not available in Connecticut, Florida, Massachusetts, New York, or the District of Columbia. This rider is not available in Washington state. In Oregon, term policies must include the waiver of premium benefit to be eligible for this rider.